

Educational Jargon Buster

What is a Key Stage?

- KS1 Key Stage 1 (primary school, ages 4 to 7)
- KS2 Key Stage 2 (primary school, ages 7 to 11)
- KS3 Key Stage 3 (secondary school, ages 11 to 13)
- KS4 Key Stage 4 (secondary school, ages 13 to 16)

Some other Key Terms

- Assessment – finding out about children’s knowledge and abilities in order to best plan their future learning.
- Attainment Targets – for each National Curriculum subject there are written statements of what pupils should be taught and be able to do at each level of attainment.
- Baseline Assessment – the measurement and evaluation of reception children’s skills, abilities and knowledge. (See also ALIS, YELLIS, SATS, CATS and PIPS).
- CATs – Cognitive Ability Tests – Diagnostic assessments for Year 7 pupils to measure an individual’s potential ‘ability’ in verbal reasoning, quantitative skills and non-verbal reasoning.
- Core subjects – Compulsory subject under the national curriculum in England and Wales, usually English, maths and science
- Differentiation – The process of developing teaching and learning styles and materials related to the different levels of pupil understanding and ability.
- Extra Curricular Activities – Educational opportunities provided by a school outside the formal taught curriculum.
- LSA – Also known as Learning Support Practitioner or teaching assistant. Widely used job title for an assistant providing in-school support for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Mixed Ability – a teaching group in which children of all abilities are taught together, rather than being separated according to their ability into a stream or set.
- Ofsted – Ofsted intended to raise standards in British schools through regular inspections.
- PSHE – Personal, Social and Health Education
- SMSC – Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development in schools.
- Special Needs and Additional Support
- ADD Attention Deficit Disorder – A condition whereby a child has a short concentration span and is unable to stay on task. See ADHD.
- ADHD – A condition whereby a child has difficulty in maintaining concentration and is unable to stay on task due to hyperactivity.
- Autism - Autism is defined by the National Autistic Society as: “A lifelong developmental disability that affects the way a person communicates and relates to others in a meaningful way... people with autism can often have accompanying learning disabilities but everyone with the condition shares a difficulty in making sense of the world.” It mentions problem with social interaction, social communication and imagination.
- Behaviour Support Plan – A written plan detailing support arrangements for the education of children with behavioural difficulties.

- Dyscalculia – Dyscalculia affects the ability to acquire arithmetical skills. Sufferers may have difficulty understanding simple number concepts and often have problems learning number facts and procedures.
- Dyslexia – A learning difficulty of which the chief manifestation is a particular difficulty with reading and spelling.
- SEND – Special Educational Needs and disabilities – A child is said to have a special educational need if he/she finds it more difficult to learn than most children of the same age.
- SENCO – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator – Teacher in a school who co-ordinates the provision for children with SEND.
- IEP – Individual Education Plans for pupils with special needs at Stage 2 and above on the Special Needs Register.
- PSP – Pastoral Support Plan.

Year One to Thirteen

Reception year = 4-5 year olds

Year Age

- 1: 5 – 6
- 2: 6 – 7
- 3: 7 – 8
- 4: 8 – 9
- 5: 9-10
- 6: 10-11
- 7: 11-12
- 8: 12-13
- 9: 13-14
- 10: 14-15
- 11: 15-16
- 12: 16-17
- 13: 17-18